

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Detonator Factory near Warsaw	DATE DISTR.	5 February 1955
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">This is UNEVALUATED Information</div>			

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 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. A detonator factory is located about 1,500 meters north of Praga, suburb of Warsaw. The plant employs 95 workers.
2. The plant produces detonators (Sprengkapsel) for all cartridge shells of ammunition used in Poland. The daily capacity of the plant should be 500,000 detonators for cartridge shells of infantry weapons. At present, the output does not reach this figure due to a shortage of mercury. Production is only about 30 percent of the plant's capacity.
3. The mechanical presses for making the brass meniscuses for the detonators are of Soviet make, but they are slightly modified copies of German and Czech machines. The five presses have a very high output; each machine stamps 20,000 primers per hour.
4. The filling of the detonating primers also takes place at the plant. Lead nitrate should be used as a filler, but because of the difficulties involved in its production, fulminate of mercury is used instead. The primers are filled automatically by machines for that purpose.

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